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AMERICAN MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY.

FOR several years the need of greater facilities for the publication of mathematical investigations has been strongly felt by the members of the American Mathematical Society. This Society has maintained during the past eight years an historical and critical review, known as the *Bulletin of the American Mathematical Society*, and throughout the whole of this period there has been a constantly growing demand for the publication in the pages of this journal of articles not properly falling within its scope. The Society, feeling that the time has come when further provision must be made for the publication of such articles, recently invited the cooperation of several American colleges and universities in a plan whereby such articles may be afforded suitable means of publication.

The necessary cooperation has now been secured, and the publication of the *Transactions of the American Mathematical Society* has been definitely undertaken to begin January 1, 1900. The cooperating institutions are Harvard University, Yale University, Princeton University, Columbia University, Haverford College, Northwestern University, Cornell University, The University of California, Bryn Mawr College and The University of Chicago. It is the desire of the Society that the *Transactions* may cooperate with existing journals in developing a wider and more active interest in mathematical research. Among American journals the *Annals of Mathematics* will encourage papers of pedagogic nature and brief researches of general interest; the *Bulletin of the American Mathematical Society* will maintain its character as an historical and critical review, and the *American Journal of Mathematics* and the *Transactions of the American Mathematical Society* will together, it is hoped, afford adequate facilities for the publication of the rapidly increasing volume of the more technical mathematical papers.

The *Transactions* will be devoted primarily to research in pure and applied mathematics. The editors will welcome all papers containing investigations of sufficient mathematical interest and value. Such papers, in many cases, will be, necessarily, of considerable length; but the editors will be very glad to receive, also, short contributions which are of such a char-

acter as to fall within the scope of the *Transactions*. Papers from mathematicians not belonging to the Society will be welcomed; such papers, if accepted for publication, will be presented to the Society by the editors.

The *Transactions of the American Mathematical Society* will be published quarterly. The first number will appear January 1, 1900. The page of the *Transactions* will be the same size as that of the Berlin *Sitzungsberichte*. The subscription price for the annual volume of at least four hundred pages is five dollars, twenty shillings, twenty Marks, or twenty-five francs. A reduction in price will be made, however, to the members of the American Mathematical Society. Subscriptions and payments should be sent to the office of the American Mathematical Society, 501 West 116th Street, New York. Cheques and postal money orders should be made payable to the American Mathematical Society.

Manuscripts intended for publication in the *Transactions* should be addressed either to Professor E. H. Moore, University of Chicago, Chicago, Ill., or to Professor F. W. Brown, Haverford College, Haverford, Pa., or to Professor T. S. Fiske, Columbia University, New York, N. Y.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS.

LORD KELVIN, who for fifty-three years has occupied the chair of natural philosophy at Glasgow, presented to the University Court on July 13th a petition for leave to retire. The Court granted the leave asked, and accepted Lord Kelvin's resignation with deep regret. A remit was made to the Principal to prepare a minute to be signed by all the members of the Court, expressing their sense of the great loss that the University is now to sustain.

PROFESSOR F. ZEEMAN, of Amsterdam, has been awarded the Baumgartner Prize of the Vienna Academy of Sciences, and Dr. K. Natterer, docent in chemistry in the University of Vienna, the Lieben Prize of the Academy.

THE Academy of Sciences of Berlin has given Professor Engler 4,000 Marks for work in botany.

THE third Conference of Astronomers and